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Catalogue

The Museum

Art, Historical and Scientific Association

Vancouver, British Columbia

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Vancouver Art, Historical and Scientific Association

W. Ferris, Curator
(Over Carnegie Library)

Early History of the Museum Vancouver

THE Vancouver Museum had its beginning in the early part of 1889 when a few of the residents of the city met and proposed starting an art association, and later on to enlarge its scope to include historical and scientific objects and curios of British Columbia and America, and ultimately to found a museum to be called the Cook-Vancouver Museum and Art Gallery.

The Association continued growing and collecting objects of historical and scientific interest and was maintained for several years by the founders entirely for the public good and without any assistance from the city. In April, 1894, the first public meeting was held, when it was proposed to form an Art, Historical and Scientific Association, and the constitution and bylaws to that effect were drawn up and passed and the old Art Association and its collection of exhibits then in their possession were turned over and became the property of the new Association. In 1889 the city made a small grant to the Association towards its expenses, and in July, 1901, the Association was duly incorporated under the Benevolent Societies Act.

In 1903 the city entered into an agreement with the Association as owners and custodians of the museum to provide proper and suitable premises for the purposes of the Association and the establishment of a public museum, at all times under the power and control of the Association, and accordingly the museum and its valuable exhibits were removed to the top floor of the Carnegie Library, and the city has since contributed an annual grant towards the necessary expenses.

A museum is to a city of any pretensions what a good and well-conducted library is to the same city, and must stand side by side with it as part of its teaching equipment and as one of the principal agencies for the enlightenment of the people, and independently of its educational use and purpose one of the justifiable purposes of a museum is to give recreation and happiness to great masses of the people, and by far the greatest number of visitors drop in casually for just these purposes. From these

casual visits many carry away a desire and intention to further investigate and still more to receive educational benefits therefrom.

The museum in Vancouver, which has been the voluntary work for years of the old members of the Association, many of whom are still members, is worthy of a much better home. The rooms are full, and more than full, of exhibits, and it is impossible in the limited space at the disposal of the directors to scientifically arrange the exhibits as they should be, or even to make room for those they already have in their possession.

The collection of exhibits is a credit to those whose individual efforts have done so much to assist its growth in the past, and is worthy and should have a building of its own.

To those who have never visited the museum, and many of our citizens have not done so, then let them come and see what the energy and enterprise of a few private citizens have done for the city of Vancouver, not for private gain but for the public good, and that Vancouver might some day have a Cook-Vancouver Museum and Art Gallery worthy of the name.

The museum contains a fine mineral and geological collection. The ethnological collection contains numerous specimens of the skill of the natives of this province, and also of weapons, dresses and implements of the natives of Fiji, Solomon Islands, Peru, Nicaragua, New Zealand, Australia, Malay States, South Africa, Philippine Islands, New Guinea, and the Esquimaux and North-west Indians. There are specimens of mammals of this province, New Zealand and Australia.

The ornithological or bird collection is of the province and from New Zealand and Tasmania, and several cases of birds' eggs. In conchology (shells) there is a good collection, and also of coral, and in fossils there are several cases of interesting exhibits.

The entomological collection, although not a large one, is both instructive and valuable, of butterflies and moths not only of British Columbia but from England, China, Japan, Queensland and North America. There is also a collection of coins of all nations and numerous cases of curios and valuable exhibits from all parts of the world, besides the nucleus of an art gallery, some cases of

old and valuable books and china, exhibits of old guns, revolvers, etc., and a collection of specimens of the woods of British Columbia, Australia and New South Wales.

STAIRWAY—On the stairway is some drapery, Indian temple design native work, and a carved wooden shield with the Dominion coat-of-arms.

CASE No. 73—In the lobby, Case No. 73 contains several old newspapers, periodicals, etc., an old pioneer bicycle built in Barkerville in 1864, and a stand of maps.

As you enter the museum, over the door are two skins of the python snake and carpet snake.

To the left is an inlaid table containing 2,600 pieces of wood, relating to Captains Cook and Vancouver, and the old S.S. "Beaver."

Cane cocoanut wood made by Fiji Islands native.

A bust of Nelson made of "Victory" copper on a "Victory" oak stand. Above are two specimens of Jacobean carving—a carved panel, Jacobean, and a panel with copper-plate relief of Nelson's ship "Victory," presented by Lord Strathcona.

TABLE No. 16—On Table No. 16 are numerous bron images of Buddha and Guatama and two ox bells of differ tones. Behind the table are four Chinese gongs and two n.ie bells used in Siam.

The cabinet in the rear contains a fine collection of china and inlaid ware of Siam. Abo e spears and tridents and a piece of rhinoceros skin, paddles, and a tray, basket, etc.

CASE No. 15 contains Mexican, Peru, Philippine Islands and Doulton ware pottery, some idols of Guatama, brass candlesticks, and other curios.

CASE No. 14 contains a fine collection of Siamese curios, silver boxes, chessmen, swords, oil lamps, shuttles, etc., and an "Ordination Ceremony" in the ancient Pali language written on wood.

CASE No. 13 has a fine collection of Indian arrow heads, axes, Celt's spear heads, whistles, hammer heads, etc., principally from Michigan.

CASE No. 1 contains a good collection of curios from all parts of the world — Palestine, Australia, New Zealand, Athens, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Waterloo, Alaska, Sandwich Isles, Italy and other places—collected on a tour of the world, and is well worth notice.

CASE No. 10 also contains some very interesting curios—ancient guinea scales, miniature of Elizabeth of France, old watches, verge escapement, vinaigrette, Roman fibula (safety pin), opals, turquoise, jasper, etc., Zulu and Kaffir ornaments, and other very interesting exhibits.

CASE No. 9 is another very interesting case of world-wide curios from India, South Africa, Korea, China, Greece, Cyprus, Japan, and some native Esquimaux curios, etc.

CASE No. 8 contains a valuable collection of old books.

CASE No. 84 contains some mummies from ancient Egypt, ostrich, emu, cassowary and albatross eggs, old English bead work, some fossil Ammonite and other specimens, section of Roman pavement from Leicester, England, and some crystal and other geological specimens.

CASE No. 59 contains some fine geological specimens—opal, agate, gold and silver ores, jasper, obsidian, corundum, jadite, copper, lead, asbestos, etc.

CASE No. 30 is a fine collection of sea shells, which is well worth a close inspection.

In the centre of this half of the room is an old chair with kangaroo-skin seat and back, presented to Geo. MacQuarie, Governor of New South Wales, in 1808.

A cabinet containing some fine specimens of old Lowestoft, Bristol, Staffordshire, Wedgewood, and silver and copper lustre ware, on the top of which is some Dutch and Indian pottery and two sketch models of Dela Poel and Andrew Marvel.

Another cabinet contains some old books, magazines, etc., and on the top a model of rush boat used by Indians of Peru, model of a Japanese house, and two pieces of Siamese lacquer work.

CASE No. 3 contains some 300 fine specimens of ore, with precious stones—turquoise, beryl, ruby, sapphire, gold quartz and crystals, emeralds, diamonds, opal, topaz, lapis lazuli, uranium, etc., and some 50 fine fossils of trilobites, fish, ferns, etc.

CASE No. 4 contains about 17,000 specimens of Herkimer diamonds, quartz, crystals, amethyst, onyx, jasper, silicated corals, chalcedonies, etc.

CASE No. 5 contains over 200 specimens of rare forms of native and other silver, lead, tin and zinc crystals, precious stones, iron ore, zinc, serpentine asbestos, tourmaline, garnet, and other geological specimens.

CASE No. 6 contains some 300 geological specimens—as quartz, zeolite, spar, barite, gypsum, antimony, sulphide, aragonite, talc, fluorite, stilbite, etc.

CASE No. 7 contains 150 specimens, principally rare ores of copper and copper silicate, cuprite, azurite, malachite, chalcotricite, linarite, etc., etc.

CASE No. 2 contains 80 good specimens of Chalcedonies, 20 concretionary spheres, tray of Indian arrow heads, some fine shells, seven specimens of marble and shell necklaces.

CASE No. 20 contains literary curios—old deeds, letters from Gen. Garibaldi, John Wesley, Louis Kossuth—and other interesting exhibits.

Small statue of Venus de Milo.

Around the walls are several oil and water-color paintings. In water color: "The Heart of London," some Devonshire scenes, mountain scenery, the Old Beaver, etc., and some large oil paintings of English Bay, Lake Louise, and of the volcano Kilawea, Hawaii; old lady; monk's head; portrait of David Oppenheimer, second Mayor of Vancouver, also a replica bust of David Oppenheimer and a large painting of the first City Council of Vancouver after the fire; two oil portraits of Shakespeare; portrait of Capt. Cook and painting of his birthplace, with photos of his ship "Resolution" and his death; portrait of Capt. Vancouver and painting of Petersham churchyard showing his tombstone; and photographs of Australian scenery, enclosing within 101 specimens of pressed ferns, and four framed photographs of New Zealand scenery enclosing ferns.

On the screen are portraits of the Hon. J. W. Johnston, Lord Dufferin, Sir John Macdonald, Rt. Hon. R. L. Borden, Sir John Thompson, His late Majesty King Edward and Queen Alexandra, Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, David Douglas, Mr. Justice Haliburton and Matthew Grey; photographs of the Japanese Consul and his wife, Capt. and Mrs. Mellon, Rev. Canon Tucker and Major Rogers; and photogravures of Canadian Delegates at Charlottetown in 1865; Dinner of Old Guard, 1874; Plenipotentiaries, Fishery Treaty, Washington, 1888; Agents, Behring Sea Arbitration, 1893; Railway International Congress, 1895; three prints of French Habitants, seventeenth century costume; four prints of Plato, Froebel, Arnold and Shelley; a reproduction of McWhirter's painting of Glen Affaric; two old English clocks.

CASES Nos. 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28 are cases of birds' eggs, most of them named. Continuing round the room is:

CASE No. 19 containing 10 specimens of British Columbia ducks and water fowl, mounted. Above are six small cases—snow birds, golden oreole, water ousel, pigmy owl, cross bills,

humming bird, marsh hawk, with an eagle above them. In the recess are bows and arrows, spears, club and womera from Fiji, New Guinea, Solomon Isles and Queensland.

CASE No. 70 also contains 28 specimens of British Columbia water-fowl, and other birds, mounted. Over that is a fine head of caribou and two antlers of a moose.

In the recess adjoining is a sheaf of Maori spears.

CASE No. 69 contains a fine collection of bead-work girdles and neck, ankle and waist ornaments worn by natives of South Africa, and other articles, also Maori chief's feather shoulder cape, soap bark, lace bark, sugar pine cones, fiddle and bow (Malay Peninsula), nest of weaver bird, etc. Over that is the head of a Bengal tiger.

In the recess is a sheaf of Fiji Island arrows, Chinese spear and arrows, and a branch of Paragorgia Pacifica.

CASE No. 68 contains New Hebrides native's bow and arrows and a fine collection of northwest and Fort George Indian bead-work—horse cloth, necklace, leggings, purse, bracelets, etc.—and Samoan basketwork.

In the recess are Solomon Island spears, and an elk horn and broken 50-lb. shell from South Africa, with the head of Dalls mountain sheep over case.

CASE No. 67 contains skin of coach-whip snake, paper cane, and collection of buffalo, cow and deer horns; several fine specimens of leaf, mushroom and other coral; pearl oyster shells; spiny crab; star fish, etc.

Over the case is the head of a deer and antlers of moose and caribou.

Adjoining is an old cannon; section of whale vertebrae; whalebone; copper buoy picked up on the west coast; saddle, Entre Rios, South America; sea lions and hairy seal; Indian carvings from graves; small totem pole, Haidah Indians; horns

of water buck, South Africa; two shields from first locomotive into Vancouver, 24th May, 1887; skulls of buffalo and bighorn sheep; two crocodiles and one alligator; two albatross and pelican; model of canoe, China Hat Indians; suit of ancient Japanese armor; loin coverings, South Sea Islanders; kyack; Esquimaux Indian canoe and paddle; Philippine Islands canoe, paddles, anchors and basket; canoe bailers; scoop net, Philippine Islands; native basket, New Hebrides; fishing net, Philippine Islands; horns of caribou; horns of wapiti, and Argus pheasant skin.

A frame of plaster casts—Minerva, Venus, etc.

CASE No. 34 contains magpies—English and Tasmanian; regent bird; parroquet; diamond sparrow; bronze-winged pigeon; Californian quail; barn owl; sparrow hawk; common diver; great northern diver; Virginian quail; pheasant; parrot, Central America; and head of New Guinea crown pigeon, and over case two cases of squirrels.

CASE No. 35—Marbled merrulet and Bonaparte gull.

CASE No. 23—Marbled merrulet.

CASE No. 22—Duck hawk; great blue heron; short-eared owl; cormorant; two bitterns; two red-shouldered hawks; night jar; night heron; peregrene falcon; lesser heron; two wood owls; buff-back heron; barn owl; Tasmanian water rat, bush rats and native cat; spiny ant-eaters; phalangista vulpina platypus; flying squirrels; western porcupine; two loons, and albatross.

CASE No. 21 in centre of the room contains samples of coins of all nations — English, French, German, Russian, Italian, Chinese, etc., also paper money of several states, bank notes, medals, etc.

CASE No. 48 contains fine specimens of Japanese butterflies.

CASE No. 49 contains specimens of North American butterflies.

CASE No. 50 contains specimens of British Columbia butterflies.

CASE No. 51 contains specimens of Chinese butterflies and moths.

CASE No. 52 contains specimens of Japanese butterflies.

CASE No. 53 contains specimens of Queensland butterflies, and a cabinet of Corticelli silk culture showing moth, silkworm, cocoon, etc.

CASE No. 54 contains specimens of British Columbia and Asiatic butterflies.

CASE No. 55 AND CASE No. 56 contain specimens of English butterflies and moths.

CASE No. 82 contains a collection of butterflies and moths.

A piece of cross section of bulwark of steamer "Beaver."

Native drum, Malay Peninsula. Plaster cast in relief of Ralph Waldo Emerson on stand.

On the stand are specimens of the woods of Australia and New South Wales.

CASE No. 65 contains a fine collection of flint-lock, muzzle-loading and other revolvers; daggers; bayonets, bandoliers from the Boer war; horse pistols; scalping knife; iron ball; poisonous bullet; tomahawk; bolo; cartridges from Ladysmith, etc.

On the table are two cannon balls; bamboo gun, Philippine Islands; bronco saddle; aka kain produce of Malay jungle.

On screen, ten guns—flint-lock, muzzle-loading, and magazine; swords and bayonets; Chinese head sword; shark-teeth sword.

A fine collection of the weapons of the natives of Malay Peninsula and Borneo, and a French sword bayonet.

A table containing photographs—South Africa, Memorial Service, London, etc.

Around wall—Sheaf of Solomon Islands bows and arrows; Australian boomerang; four native dresses, New Hebrides; Tappa cloth, Samoan Islands; bows and arrows, natives of Peru; hand-woven cloth by native Peruvians 300 years ago.

On screen—Umbrella and hat, Java; Indian dog-driver's garters; Esquimaux boots; Esquimaux baskets; Indian water bottle, deer's stomach, British Columbia; inner bark of tree used as a blanket, Indo-China; Esquimaux tom-tom; body covering, New Hebrides; North Siam and Chinese hats; a parong, Borneo; wild boar's head; two swordfish blades; one sawfish blade; harpoon; Maori carved paddle and cane; two Australian boomerangs and one womera; horns of Mexican bull; Esquimaux bow and arrows; two Australian nulla nullas or throwing clubs and shield.

Over the screen is an eagle.

ON LONG TABLE—Fine fossil of palm found at Hastings; two Hindoo idols, very old; several fossilized exhibits; British Columbia Indian's stone hammer; bowls; anvil; disks; pestle and mortar; two-man jack plane; jaw of shark; fossil clams found at Shaughnessy Heights; cross section of fir bark.

CASE No. 31—Two racoons; owl; grouse and quail; in front of case Canadian lynx, two cougars.

CASE No. 83 contains two bush-tailed woodrats; mountain beaver; mink; otter; echedna; baby harp seal; land otter; mongoose; marten and wild cat.

On table, giant clam, two triton shells, specimens of carborundum and salt.

CASE No. 18 contains white coral.

CASE No. 32 contains Chinese boots, shoes, head ornaments; collection of curios from Ecuador; horned toad; tarantula;

scorpion and trap-door spider from California; beetles, etc.; mummies' cloth, idol and part of hand from Egypt; kauri gum from New Zealand; edible birds' nests, and other interesting exhibits.

CASE No. 33 contains a fine collection of coral and shells.

INNER ROOM

ENTRANCE—Skin of Australian carpet snake; spine of sturgeon; bow and arrow, East Coast Indians; spear and seal harpoon and guide board, Esquimaux; steam weight and part of winch from steamer "Beaver."

CASE No. 60—Humming-birds' nests and eggs; golden oriole's nest; great horned owl; American osprey; mountain parrot; two pink parrots; great northern diver; goshawk; and on the top of the case, a pelican.

CASE No. 61—Salmon and teredo preser[illegible]; cobra and rattlesnake stuffed, and iguana skin; mountain goat snare; flag, Orange Free State; models of houses, Manilla, Philippine Islands; fish lines; Esquimaux fishing net and Indian relic.

CASE No. 42 contains about 100 specimens of gold and silver ore, quartz, magnatite, iron ore, copper, zinc, asbestos, etc.; bottle of colored sand; bottle of washed silver ore and specimens of crude and refined petroleum.

CASE No. 58 contains upwards of 50 fine specimens of silver ores, nuggets, conglomerate showing silver, native silver, copper, cobalt bloom, argentite, blue vitriol, etc.

CASE No. 57 contains upwards of 70 specimens of ores and minerals mixed.

CASES 56 AND 55 contain specimens of British Columbia Indian basket work; treasure boxes of Haidah Indians on the top; and Indian child's cradle.

Upright case of minerals contains in compartment No. 47 some 100 specimens of iron ore.

No. 48, about 100 specimens of gold and silver ores.

No. 49, about 100 specimens of copper ores.

No. 50, about 100 specimens of lead and silver ores.

No. 51, about 100 specimens of tin ores.

No. 52 contains specimens of arragonite, elnor spath, stalactites, gypsum and other minerals.

No. 53 contains specimens of graphite, jet, claytonite, garnet, etc.

No. 54 contains specimens of pyroxene, chabayzite, serpentine, etc.

Above the case is a wolf fish and several British Columbia Indian masks and totem poles, and model of house, etc.

On the wall are specimens of the woods of British Columbia.

CASES 45 AND 46 contain numerous specimens of basket-work of the Indians of British Columbia.

CASE No. 39 contains British Columbia Indians' work, whistles, spoons, musical instruments, gambling sticks, fish hooks, sledge hammers, celts, and a few fossils.

CASE No. 38 contains some fine specimens of fossils of every description, and underneath the case are a stuffed lynx, two Tasmanian devils, and a Tasmanian wolf.

Adjoining is a moose deer head, the skull of an Indian found at Eburne, another skull, and some preserved specimens of lamprey, chimera, fish eggs, rough piddock, etc.

CASE No. 41 contains native work of Indians of Peru and Nicaragua; Aztec household gods; specimens of Peruvian pottery; silver work; spinning needles, etc., and a few fossils.

CASE No. 62 contains British Columbia Indian work; medicine tubes and bowl; whistles; ladles; stone axes; chisels, etc.;

arrow and spear points; slate model totem pole; charms, fish hooks and stone carvings.

The upright case in the centre contains potlatch and medicine man's costumes, implements of war and of household use, and other interesting relics collected by Mrs. R. Campbell Johnston in Northern British Columbia.

CASE No. 85 contains Indian doll, trading beads, celts, etc., of Indians of British Columbia; miner's lamp; Indian gambling sticks; trading beads, etc.

CASE No. 44 contains bead work—mocassins, belts; basket-work; Northwest Indians, Sioux.

Around the walls are architectural drawings and water-color paintings, an oil painting of Kilawea in eruption, and a collection of water-color paintings of Australian wild flowers.

Also a chart of the Chinese punishment hereafter for sins committed.

Photograph of Sydney harbor.

A print of the Imperial Institute, London, and several Indian boxes, utensils, etc., and specimens of the different woods of the Province of British Columbia.

Two very old trunks.

A fine specimen of old Japanese armor, over 500 years old.

A pair of French sabots.

A young grizzly bear.

A cast of original seal of Vancouver, 1886.

CASE No. 36 contains ore; sawfish blades; birds' nests; fire-kindlers; lace bark and implements from the Malay Peninsula, and several preserved specimens of scorpions, centipedes, snakes and lizards from the same place.

In the corner is a bundle of Sumpertan tubes, through which poisoned darts are blown, and spears used by natives of the Malay Peninsula.

Hornets' nest; branch of petrified tree.

THE ROUND ROOM

CASE No. 75 contains some fine fossils procured near Hastings, belonging to the Eocene strata.

CASE No. 63 contains British Columbia Indian native implements, hammers, celts, etc.; boladores used by Mexican cowboys for throwing cattle; some Esquimaux work; halibut hook, etc.

CASE No. 74 contains a collection of Indian and other native skulls and human bones; tiger and puma skulls; mammoth molars; ear drums of whale, and other natural history specimens.

CASE No. 43 contains collection of Indian basket-work.

ON THE FLOOR are three pairs of mammoth tusks, shoulder blade and other bones; some specimens of tree growth.

ON SCREEN—Portrait of Alexander Mackenzie; photograph of city of Athens; photograph of city of Constantinople; portraits of Mr. Finlayson, Jas. Johnson. Sir John Thompson, Fort Garry in 1854, portrait of Hon. John Robson.

ON THE WALLS are four photographs of views of Egypt; painting illustrating Empire of Israel and the British nation; Chinese painting of Imperial Gardens, Pekin.

In folding frame is a fine collection of British Columbia flora, containing 145 specimens, collected principally in the neighborhood of Vancouver.

SATURDAY SUNSET PRESSES, VANCOUVER, B. C.